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without wires over an ocean or a continent. This remarkable fact was actually demonstrated in September, 1915, when the Engineering Organization of the Bell Telephone System, after years of silent preparation successfully sent a wireless telephone communication from Washington, D. C., eastward to Paris and westward to Honolulu, the latter being a distance of 4,900 miles. On the same occasion, speech was transmitted over a standard telephone circuit from New York to Washington, where it was automatically amplified and relayed to the radio apparatus and thence projected through space across the continent to San Francisco.

It is in such a combination with the wireless telegraph that the greatest usefulness of the wireless telephone will probably be found to lie. Through the happy union of the two new arts of communication, spoken messages can be sent from airplanes, ships, moving trains and points on land or water where the installation of wires or cables is impracticable, to a convenient receiving station, whence they can be relayed by wireless telegraphy to more distant points. Doubtless, also, if satisfactory methods are found for eliminating atmospheric disturbances and preserving secrecy, the wireless telephone will to some extent be used for the handling of trans-oceanic messages.

#### SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS IN ENGLISH FOR THE NATIONS OF CONTINENTAL EUROPE

Two movements have been initiated, one in the United States and one in England, for the supply of books and journals to European countries. In this country an appeal is signed by Felix Adler, James R. Angell, Franz Boas, Charles W. Eliot, J. Cardinal Gibbons, Arthur T. Hadley, David Starr Jordan,

Harry Pratt Judson, E. H. Lewinski-Corwin, A. Lawrence Lowell, John Bassett Moore, Henry Fairfield Osborn, George Foster Peabody, M. I. Pupin, Jacob Gould Schurman, Ellery Sedgwick, F. J. V. Skiff, Munroe Smith, Antonio Stella, Henry Suzzallo, Harlan F. Stone, William H. Taft and F. A. Vanderlip.

They say:

Owing to the depreciated currency of Europe and the financial difficulties in which many European nations find themselves, the publication of some European serials has been temporarily discontinued, others have decreased in size, while the publication of still others is irregular. Furthermore, the purchase of American books at the present rate of exchange is practically impossible.

Since it is essential for the intellectual life of mankind, that students of all countries should be in close touch, and since it seems of importance to America that the results of our intellectual activities should be known, the undersigned urge all publishers, publishing institutions and publishing societies to exchange their publications on the most liberal terms with libraries, publishers, journals and publishing institutions and societies of all European countries, disregarding for the near future the question whether the amount of printed matter received in exchange corresponds with the amount sent.

From England it is proposed to establish in Central Europe under British-American auspices libraries of recent English books indispensable to university teachers. The work is being organized on a broad, non-political, non-sectarian basis, so as to enlist the widest possible cooperation. These libraries will supply on loan books needed by the faculties of the different universities in Central Europe. They will be under the charge of British and American representatives, and committees of the foreign universities will be asked to superintend the local administration. A committee of the six most im-



WILHELM PFEFFER,

The distinguished Physiological Botanist of the University of Leipzig who has died at the age of seventy-five years. The photograph by C. Bellach was taken when Professor Pfeffer was fifty-four years old.

portant learned societies in Germany and Austria has been formed for the carrying out of the plan which, in addition to the loan library, will include a system of exchange of publications and duplicates between any libraries and institutions willing to cooperate. The preliminary statement of the trustees says:

By thus taking the initiative in extending the hand of fellowship to colleagues in former enemy countries, British and American scholars are seizing a timely opportunity of helping to heal the wounds of the war and of exemplifying in a practical and convincing way the true "international mind."

Viscount Bryce, Lord Robert Cecil and other English public men have expressed their approval of the plan and have promised their cooperation in carrying it out. The supporters of the plan in Great Britain include: Gilbert Murray, Oxford; A. E. J. Rawlinson, Oxford; C. S. Sherrington, Oxford; Walter Raleigh, Oxford; A. E. Shipley, Cambridge; J. J. Thomson, Cambridge; A. S. Ramsay, Cambridge; Joseph Larmor, Cambridge; Horace Darwin, Cambridge; W. B. Hardy, M.A., Cambridge; Alfred Hopkinson, Glasgow; Col. E. H. Hills, Woolwich; Henry

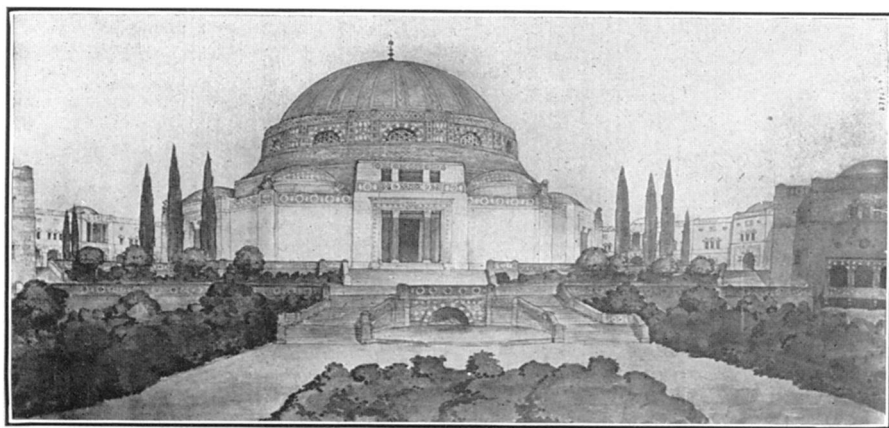
A. Miers, Oxford; Alex. Hill, Cambridge; George Paish, London; Rickman G. Godlee, London, and Michael Sadler, Leeds.

University teachers in the United Kingdom and America are requested to give their approval and cooperation to the plan by sending their names to the secretary, Mr. B. M. Headicar, librarian of the London School of Economics (University of London), Clare Market, London, W.C.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES

WE record with regret the death of A. J. Chalmers, lately director of the Wellcome Research Laboratories at Khartum; of J. S. MacArthur, the English industrial chemist; of Dr. E. Schwalbe, director of the pathological institute at the University of Rostock, and of Pier Andrea Saccardo, the distinguished mycologist and professor emeritus of the Royal University of Padua.

MEMBERS of the National Academy of Sciences have been elected as follows: Dr. James Rowland Angell, University of Chicago and the National Research Council, president-elect of the Carnegie Corporation, psychologist; Dr. Henry Prentiss



MAIN BUILDING OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY BEING CONSTRUCTED ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, JERUSALEM.